

## REMARKS

Claims 6 - 10 are pending in the application.

Appropriate headings have been added to the specification, and claims from the literal translation have been replaced by claims drafted in conformity with U.S. Patent practice.

The application in its amended state is believed to be in condition for allowance. However, should the Examiner have any comments or suggestions, or wish to discuss the merits of the application, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to expedite placement of the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 – 5: Cancelled

6. (New) A driving axle for a vehicle that is driven by an electric motor, comprising:  
a driven motor shaft (12) wherein said electric motor (11) is disposed on said motor shaft;

drive shafts (14, 15) coupled to said motor shaft (12) via the interposition of a reduction transmission stage (13) and a following differential transmission, wherein said drive shafts (14, 15) are intended for wheels respectively disposed thereon;

an externally toothed sun pinion (19) that, as part of said reduction transmission stage (13), is disposed on said motor shaft (12), which is mounted in motor shaft bearings (25) that are connected to a gearbox (24) of said reduction transmission stage (13), wherein said motor shaft bearings (25) are embodied as bearings that absorb radial and axial forces;

a sleeve (26) that is disposed between said motor shaft bearings (25) and said sun pinion (19) and is supported on opposite sides against said motor shaft bearings and said sun pinion;

a securing means (28) disposed on a free end of said motor shaft (12) for fixing said sun pinion (19) against said sleeve (26); and

gears (20) of said reduction transmission stage (13) that mesh with said sun pinion (19) wherein said sun pinion and said gears (20) are embodied as helical gears having a force component that acts in the direction of said motor shaft bearings (25).

7. (New) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein said sun pinion (19) is

supported directly against said sleeve (26)

8. (New) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein a spacer disk (27) is disposed between said sleeve (26) and said sun pinion (19)

9. (New) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein said securing means (28) fixes said sun pinion (19) against said sleeve (26) with bias.

10. (New) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein said sun pinion (19) is disposed between said sleeve (26) and said securing means (28) with slight axial play.